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FOOD INDUSTRY IN RUMANIA, 1953

[Summary: Acute shortages have existed in Rumania in meat products, oils, and sugar. The quality of bread and canned goods has been poor. Procurement of agricultural products has been unsatisfactory and the shortages which existed in 1952 continued throughout the first 8 months of 1953.]

In the fall of 1953, the Rumanian government announced that it planned to invest 1.8 billion lei in the food industry during 1953-1955, instead of the 980 million lei originally provided by the Five-Year Plan. The Ministry of Agriculture set up additional local canneries in 1953 to produce 13,000 tons more canned foods than originally planned. Many new bakeries were constructed and existing ones were improved. Additional food distribution centers were opened, but some are criticized for incompetence and negligence.

It was announced that production of sugar from the new sugar beet harvest had started at the beginning of September.

Fisheries in Galati Regiune and the Delta area, the largest fish supply centers of the country, are blamed for inefficiency, negligence, and unwillingness to collaborate with government agencies.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.

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## I. CANNERIES

The Rumanian vegetable and fruit harvest progressed well. Some regiunes had brought in the sugar crop by 20 September. Increasingly larger quantities of raw materials were supplied to the food industry -- to vegetable, meat, and fish canneries, marmalade factories, sugar refineries, and bakeries. The 1953 harvest ensured much larger quantities of raw materials for the food industry than in 1952.

The food industry has been expanded considerably in recent years. New factories, such as bakeries, oil mills, vegetable, fruit, meat, and fish canneries, and refrigeration installations, have been built. Existing factories have been enlarged and improved with new modern equipment. Large investments have been made in the sugar, edible oils, beer, and wine industries to increase and improve production. Bread production, for example, increased 44 percent in 1952, as compared to 1949; canned vegetable production increased 147 percent; marmalade production, 146 percent; and the production of confections, 92 percent. More than 152 new varieties were added to the food industry in the last 3 years. While the food industry has grown and improved considerably in recent years, the food supply is neither sufficient nor of good quality. Some important items like sugar, vegetable oils, and canned vegetables were below planned quotas, even though the Ministry of Food Industries exceeded its plan in 1952.

The directive of the plenary session of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers Party, dated 19-20 August 1953, gave instructions for the improvement of the food industry, in accordance with the over-all development of the national economy. The government will grant investments of 1.8 billion lei for 1953-1955 to the food industry, as against the 980 million lei provided in the Five-Year Plan. As a result, production of canned meat, fish, edible oils, and sugar will be increased by 40-60 percent in 1954, as compared to 1953. Technicians and workers in the food industry have a great responsibility in the accomplishment of the plan. They must ensure the processing of the large 1953 crop, using the full capacity of enterprises, of individual installations, and of the potential reserves in every enterprise. Many factories are still producing below their actual potential because machines and equipment are not fully used. For example, the Arovit Cannery, Valea-lui-Mihai, Oradea Regiune, did not utilize its full production capacity in canning peas. The plant sent part of the fresh peas to the Aprozar Cooperative to be sold, instead of canning them. As a result, the plan was not fulfilled.

The Ministry of Food Industry and individual enterprises must concentrate their attention on increased production. Socialist competition must be encouraged. Raw materials must be obtained on time, contracts must be followed up, and deliveries must be enforced. The good quality of products is of major importance. It must be admitted that some enterprises neglect quality. The Gurahont and Fructul Romanesc canneries, the Parscov Marmalade Factory, the Avram Iancu Bakery, the Dunareana Confectionery Factory, the Feleacul Candy Factory, and others have supplied products of poor quality. Workers have voiced their justified dissatisfaction with these commodities and have complained that the managements of these enterprises are disregarding the needs of the people. Contrasted to this are the good-quality products of the Flora Cannery. This factory strictly supervises production and quality. It employs skilled and trained workers. The factory has, furthermore, organized training and educational courses for its new personnel.

The Ministry of Food Industry and the respective directorates must closely supervise all enterprises to increase production, to vary assortments, and to improve quality. Factory managers who disregard standard rules and requirements for superior quality should be called to task and punished. Executive committees

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of people's councils must supervise bread bakeries to improve the quality of bread and flour pastes. At the same time, prices should be reduced. The fight against waste of raw materials and equipment, unproductive expenses, and negligence must be carried to the limit. Costs must be reduced and returns increased.

Workers in the food industry, in fruit and meat canneries, in oil mills, in sugar refineries, in bakeries, in tobacco and alcohol factories and in candy factories must strive to increase production and to improve quality for the good of all.(1)

The Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with regiune, raion, and commune people's councils, organized fruit and vegetable canning centers. These centers will produce 13,000 tons more canned food in 1953 than in 1952.

Timisoara Regiune organized 19 canning centers, including 12 centers at auxiliary farms. Close to 600 tons of canned fruit and vegetables, of the 1,900-ton quota, were produced by 10 September. In Oradea Regiune, 103 centers processed and canned 240 tons of fruit and vegetables by 5 September. Centers in Bucharest, Baia-Mare, Hunedoara, and Ploesti regiunes canned large quantities of vegetables and fruit. Suceava Regiune opened 22 centers, with a planned production of 1,000 tons of canned fruit and vegetables.(2)

The ninth session of the Hunedoara Regiune People's Council was held on 27 September 1953. The committee reported that the standard of living of the Hunedoara Regiune population had materially improved in recent months. For example, in the first 8 months of 1953, the population received 141 percent more bread, 39 percent more oil, and 60 percent more sugar products and marmalades than in the same period of 1952.(3)

Fruit crops in Jibou Raion, Cluj Regiune, have become increasingly larger and better. Possibilities of procuring and processing fruit are, therefore, also larger. The raion cooperatives set up four preserve and pulping centers. Contracts for preserving and canning fruit were made with the canneries in Gheorgheni, Hungarian Autonomous Regiune; the Filaret-Bucharest Cannery, Bucharest Regiune; and the Dej Fruit Cannery, Cluj Regiune. Cooperative managers and commune primary party organizations carefully attended to the fulfillment of the contracts. The cooperatives of Naprudea and Garnou communes made contracts with peasants for large quantities of fruit for canning purposes, and advanced large sums of money to peasants. Individual peasants of Naprudea Commune alone sold two carloads of forest fruit for 24,000 lei. They also sold 20 carloads of summer plums and 14 carloads of apples.

Despite the agitation carried on by cooperatives, fruit procurement was quite unsatisfactory considering the size of the crop. The indifference of some cooperative union managements was one of the reasons for insufficient deliveries. The cooperatives did not make contracts with peasants soon enough. The Balan, Creaca, and Letea cooperatives, which had the necessary funds to pay for the fruit, did not use the money and subsequently returned it to the central organization.

Craciun Ancau, chairman of the Jibou Raion Cooperative Union, did not provide sufficient dryers and processing centers. Consequently, only one drying installation operated in the raion; the construction of a second fruit-drying installation, which was started early in the season, was not completed by fall.

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The serious shortcomings at the Jibou Cooperative Union must also be blamed on the indifference of the raion party committee. The committee analyzed some of the decisions taken to improve work in the raion, but did not follow up on their implementation. Nothing was done to process and store the fruit, which spoiled. In addition, large quantities were not delivered at all. (4)

The Arovit Cannery, Valen-lui-Mihai Commune, Oradea Regiune, was considerably enlarged in recent years with machines imported from the Soviet Union. However, the cannery does not work efficiently and does not complete its quotas. It completed only 79.15 percent of planned vegetable canning for the first quarter of 1953. Contracts were made with peasants for delivery of their vegetable crops, exceeding the contract plan by 30.79 percent. The cannery sent 12 agents to the farms concerned, to supervise the vegetable plan, but the agents were not trained and could not properly advise the peasants. As a result, deliveries fell short of plan. Deliveries of peas, for example, should have started by 20 May, but the first shipments did not come in until 20 June. It is true that the exceptionally cold weather delayed ripening. The result was that deliveries of the entire pea crop were completed in 8 days, instead of being extended over a period of a month. In the first 25 days of August, the cannery remained behind in canning vegetables in water and in tomato sauce. Consequently, the canning plan was fulfilled only 58.13 percent. The management of the factory did not organize labor properly. Work was slow and inefficient in the first 20 days of the month; then in the last few days of the month, the big rush set in. For example, in the vegetable canning department, 6000 cans were produced on 25 August, while only 700-900 cans were produced on other days of the same month.

It must also be mentioned that the General Directorate for Canneries of the Ministry of Food Industry did not take measures to support the management of the factory. Many replacement parts were needed for machines, but could not be obtained. The manager of the cannery went to Oradea several times, but could not get the parts there; they could be obtained only from the Sacueni Supply Center. However, the latter did not have the parts at the time. Thus, some of the machines could not be used at full capacity because of the lack of a few yards of electric wire. The General Directorate for Canneries of the Ministry of Food Industry should give more attention to the Arovit Cannery. Work must be better organized, supplies must flow smoothly, and machines must be kept in constant operation. All this could be easily achieved with more attention and better management. (5)

The Fructul Romanesc Cannery of Craiova, Craiova Regiune, pledged to produce 25 percent more canned foods in 1953 than in 1952. Through mechanization of certain operations, the workers of this cannery succeeded in reducing processing time and in exceeding their norms. During the second quarter of 1953, the cannery completed its value plan 115 percent and its production plan 142 percent. The cannery supplied close to 50 percent more canned vegetables in water and tomato sauce, and 29 percent more fruit pulp. (6)

The executive committee of the Ploesti Regiune People's Council is very anxious to improve the living standard of its population, and has been devoting its attention to the food problem. It has constructed several new canneries. For example, a vegetable cannery was put in operation in Bratovan Commune. The Partizanal Marmalade Factory of Ramnicu-Sarat processed 45 tons of marmalades and fruit pulps. The Flacara Cannery of Buzau was at the peak of production in canning and pickling by 5 September. The 23 August Meat Canning Factory produced and delivered 2,500 kilograms of meat products to the distribution center of the Alimentara Cooperative in 10 days. The Octombrie-Rosu Meat Cannery also produced large quantities of canned meats daily. The Ploesti Regiune Executive Committee in general, and the Urziceni, Ploesti, and Targoviste raion committees in particular, give considerable aid to raion enterprises, placing at their disposal parcels of land for vegetable gardening. (7)

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The Uniunea Raionala a Cooperativelor de Aprovizionare si Desfacere (Raion Union of Supply and Distribution Cooperatives), Campina, Ploesti Regiune, recently organized several new centers for fruit preserving. The Supply and Distribution Cooperative of Breaza, Ploesti Regiune, for example, had preserved 46,000 kilograms of plums by 25 September. The fruit preserving center of the same town is also making good progress. It preserved 17,000 kilograms of fruit purchased from the Sotriile Village Cooperative, 5,000 kilograms of raspberries, 4,500 kilograms of cornel berries and plums, and more than 6,000 kilograms of pears. The Banesti Commune Cooperative prepared 1,700 kilograms of sour cherry syrup needed for the blending of other syrups, and 3,700 kilograms of blackberry pulp. The Magureni Cooperative preserved 3,700 kilograms of plums.(8)

The new cannery in Bratasaanca, Ploesti Raion, Ploesti Regiune, was constructed in 16 days. The construction was started on 1 August and the cannery was put in operation 2 weeks later. The factory has five boilers and three steam cookers. It had produced 1,550 jars of eggplant in tomato sauce, 620 jars of various vegetables, and 2,315 bottles of tomato paste by the end of August. The planned production for the new factory is 30,000 kilograms of various types of pickled peppers, cucumbers, etc. It will also produce fruit pulp.(9)

The organization of fruit and vegetable processing centers is one of the main duties of raion cooperatives. The Union of Cooperatives of Sfantu-Gheorghe Raion, Hungarian Autonomous Regiune, set a good example by organizing fruit and vegetable processing centers in five sectors of the raion. These centers processed two carloads of plums and apples, and 1,000 kilograms of raspberries and strawberries. The centers also pickled 12,000 kilograms of cucumbers and canned a carload of vegetables by 10 September. The Bicsal Fruit Processing Center also had good results. The Zagon Canning Center processed 1,500-2,000 kilograms of fruit daily.(10)

The Mureseni Canning Factory, Targu-Mures Raion, Hungarian Autonomous Regiune, was expanded and equipped with modern machines. An auxiliary plant producing various sizes of tin cans was also added to the cannery. The cannery produces canned peas, string beans, peppers, stuffed cabbage and peppers, vegetable stew, etc. The production capacity is 20,000 cans per 8-hour shift. A new wing under construction will contain fruit and vegetable dryer. In 1953, the factory will increase its production 46 percent over that of 1952.(11)

A new cannery was constructed at the outskirts of Tecuci Town, on the road to Galati, Galati Regiune. This cannery is of great economic importance. It will increase the supply of canned food for the urban population of Galati Regiune and it will stimulate vegetable and fruit growing in the area. This cannery will be equipped with the most modern machines. Production will be mechanized 90 percent. The tomato juice section will fill about 60,000 bottles in a 20-hour period. The cannery will have a special installation to keep fruit fresh for long periods of time, so that production can be continued during the winter. After the peak season for fruit and vegetables, the cannery will process meat products. It will have a laboratory to study vegetable production per hectare and methods of improving the quality of produce. Excellent working conditions will be provided. A medical office, rest rooms for women (who will be employed in large numbers in this factory), and 500 lockers and more than 100 showers will also be placed at the disposal of the workers.(12)

The quota at the 11 flour mills of the Gheorghe Dimitrov enterprises in Oradea Regiune was fulfilled 265 percent in the first 28 days of August 1953, and the quality of products was improved 50 percent as compared to 1952. The Osorhei and Biharica milling units contributed largely to this excess production, exceeding their daily norms by 80-90 percent.

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The Gheorghe Dimitrov enterprises have 25 separate factories, including a sausage factory, a biscuit bakery, a lemonade and Seltzer water plant, and 11 oil mills. In addition, the enterprise recently built a vegetable and fruit cannery in Osorhei Commune capable of producing 600 kilograms of canned food per day.

Important successes were also registered by the Petcofi enterprise of Sacueni Raion, Oradea Regiune. This enterprise has 29 production units, including a cannery, a fruit drying installation, and a pulping installation for fruit and vegetables.

The 7 Noembrie enterprise of Deius Raion has 37 production units. These units completed 105 percent of their plan for the month of August 1953. The 7 Noembrie enterprise had started production for October quotas by 5 September. (7)

Bucharest City housewives working at people's councils organized numerous canning centers throughout the city. The 1 Mai sector, for example, prepared 4,200 kilograms of tomato paste by 22 September; two other centers in the Stalin sector prepared 2,000 kilograms of tomato paste. The Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej sector preserved large quantities of vegetables. (13)

Workers at the auxiliary tin can factory of the Flora Cannery, Bucharest, Bucharest Regiune, are trying to economize on raw materials. They reduced by 50 percent the consumption of alloy in the process of closing cans; this resulted in a monthly saving of 5,000 lei. A further saving has been achieved through the use of tin waste from can production. These small scraps of tin are used for soda and beer bottle caps. (14)

The Zagna-Vadeni Cannery, Galati Regiune, is equipped with modern machines and installations and produces 8,000 cans and jars of food daily. The factory added eight new varieties of canned foods in 1953, including fruit jams, canned eggplant in tomato sauce, and vegetable stew. The factory produced 50 percent over plan in the first 8 months of 1953. (15)

The 22 canning centers in Baia-Mare Regiune produce a large portion of the food supplies for the working people of the regiune. Workers in the meat canning departments produced 29.3 percent more canned meats of good quality in the first 6 months of 1953 than in the same period of 1952. The edible paste departments produced in the same period 80 percent more than in the first 6 months of 1952. A fruit-drying installation was set up in Camarzana Commune, Oas Raion, with a yearly capacity of more than 10 carloads of prunes. (16)

A new meat canning factory started operation in Raznov Commune, Stalin Regiune. The factory is equipped with machines no longer needed by other large canneries. The meat for the cannery is supplied by the neighboring hog-fattening farms. The production of the cannery supplies only Stalin Regiune. (17)

## II. BREAD, EDIBLE PASTES

The Painea (bread trust) enterprises throughout Rumania started production of a new bakery product: a tasty white bread made of wheat germ. The bread trust is able to supply the full requirements of the bread distribution centers. The new loaf of bread is sold for 3.20 lei per kilogram, that is, 1.15 percent cheaper than the regular French bread. (18)

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More and more bread bakeries are being constructed in workers' centers. For example, a new bakery with a production capacity of 50 tons per 24 hours started operation in Hunedoara Raion, Hunedoara Regiune; another in Stalin Regiune produces 150 tons of bread in 24 hours. These two bakeries are completely mechanized and are the most modern in the bread industry. Each has a large warehouse capable of stocking a 15-day supply. The two bakeries have air-conditioned mixing halls and cooling tunnels for baked products, permitting earlier distribution. Fifteen bakeries with a total capacity of about 400 tons per 24 hours were also constructed in Arad, Bicz, Calan, Cugir, Lupeni, Moinești, and Timisoara during the first half of 1953.

The construction of new bread bakeries and the reconstruction of old ones places great demands on the Rumanian machine industry. For example, the Tehnofrig plant in Cluj produces dough mixers with a capacity of 1,800 kilograms per hour. The Armatura plant, Bucharest, produces large and small mixers. Furthermore, steam ovens are now produced in Rumania. These improvements have resulted in considerably increased bread production. From the beginning of 1952 to June 1953, bakeries were allotted 75 kneader-mixers, 400 mobile dough fermentors, 40 steam ovens, and other machines. Sifting and kneading is now done mechanically. Wood-burning ovens have been converted to oil. Many bread bakeries are under construction and scheduled to start operation before the end of 1953.(19)

A new bread bakery, equipped with modern machinery recently started operation in Stalin. This bakery has the first woman foreman in the city. The mixers and kneaders were constructed by the Tehnofrig factory in Cluj. A kneader processes 2,000 kilograms of dough per hour. The air-conditioned baking hall is equipped with automatic scales. The dough is sliced into 1.5 kilogram pieces for large loaves. Socialist competition is encouraged and some workers in the baking department have produced up to 3,200 kilograms of bread each in an 8-hour shift.(20)

The Partizanul Bakery of Craiova recently improved the quality of its products and increased production. The replacement of the old drying system by new automatic installations in the edible paste department helped to produce macaroni of better quality. The quality of biscuits has also been improved since a new press was installed.(11)

The workers collective at the Victoria Factory, Sibiu Raion, Stalin Regiune, have worked hard to supply consumers with more and better bread varieties. The management of the factory is also introducing new products, such as Neapolitan chocolate bars, mocha Neapolitan squares, coffee lozenges, and biscuits filled with cocoa, orange, lemon, and vanilla cream. The factory is being increasingly mechanized, which helps produce more and better items.

As a result of the wide-scale application of Soviet methods, more than one third of the workers at the factory are Stakhanovites and leading workers. Some Stakhanovites have exceeded their quotas by as much as 50 percent.(21)

Biscuits produced at the Munca Bakery of Constanta are praised for their quality. The Unirea Candy Factory of Constanta was rebuilt and equipped with modern machines. Production of confections has increased 800 percent in the last 3 years. The factory is scheduled to expand even more in 1954, with the addition of a pastry and ice cream department. The pastry department will produce 8,000 pieces of pastry in an 8-hour shift.(19)

Sanatatea is an important bakery in Bucharest. It has produced 66 tons of edible pastes in excess of plan and has reduced the price of its products by 4.57 percent in the last 2 months. Workers' wages have been raised 31.11 percent; this increase is an incentive for the workers of the bakery to do a better job.(6)

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Mixers and ovens of the 7 Noembrie food enterprise, Braila Raion, Galati Regiune, have been working at full capacity. Workers in the biscuit, edible paste, and other departments, have entered socialist competition. They work according to the Soviet hourly graph method and have considerably exceeded the plan. Other enterprises in Braila Raion have also increased their output.(22)

A new dairy and cheese plant started operation in Viseu Raion, Baia-Mare Regiune, at the beginning of September. The factory, which is equipped with Soviet machines, produces butter and various cheeses of superior quality.(23)

### III. FOOD COOPERATIVES

At the ninth session of the Hunedoara Regiune People's Council on 27 September 1953, it was reported that the working population of the regiune received much larger quantities of consumer goods in the first 8 months of 1953. Seventy-four state sales units were put in operation in Valea Jiului, Simeria, Sebes, and Brad raions to better serve the working people. New markets were opened in the towns of Deva, Hateg, Hunedoara, and Lonea, and a new bakery was put in operation in the town of Hunedora.

The report stressed, however, that supply shortages still prevailed. Places like Hunedoara, Valea-Jiului, and others did not have enough to feed the workers, while thousands of kilograms of vegetables and fruit spoiled because of lack of transportation. The executive committee of the Hunedoara Regiune People's Council and the units of the Aprozar Cooperative are indifferent. The deputies severely criticized Gheorghe Pop, chairman of the regiune union of cooperatives, as well as Gheorghe Marmezan, director of the Hunedoara Aprozar Cooperative, because their units disregarded contracts with producers and did not pick up orders on time. Furthermore, the cooperatives often accepted vegetables and fruit of poor quality.

Cooperatives were also criticized because they did not extend food distribution to mountain villages and did not supply firewood to working people, enterprises, schools, and other institutions. Maria Iordache, another deputy, criticized the delay in acting upon new recommendations and in carrying out suggested improvements. The deputies further analyzed the progress of the agricultural fall campaign and expressed dissatisfaction at the slow pace of work.

As a result of the criticisms and suggestions made by the deputies, the Hunedoara People's Council unanimously adopted a decision to take a series of measures to improve supplies for working people and to speed up agricultural fall preparations.(3)

The Spicul Distribution Center, located on Bulevardul 6 Martie, Bucharest, distributes pastries and edible flour paste products made by such important bakeries as Gheorghe Doja of Stalin, 9 Mai of Sibiu, Sanatatea of Bucharest, and Munca of Constanta. The number of customers of this store is increasingly daily, as a result of the excellent quality and great variety of products.(6)

A new modern food store recently started operation in Piatra-Neamt, Bacau Regiune. The merchandise is well stored in refrigerators and on clean shelves. In the first 6 days of operation, the store sold 897 kilograms of cold cuts, 250 kilograms of biscuits, 700 kilograms of rice and edible pastes, 400 cans of meat products, and 200 jars of canned vegetables worth 97,730 lei.(23)

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The Delta Dunarii Store, located at No 2 Bulevardul Republicii, Bucharest, is a specialty store with large numbers of customers. Canned fish is among the specialties of the store. Customers have been disappointed to find that the marinated fish, especially the turbot, is of poor quality. Marinated fish is very much in demand and was always a well-prepared food item. For some reason, this product is now very poorly prepared; it has many bones and the sauce has a bad taste. Consumers have written in many complaints, and food inspectors have checked and found the complaints justified. It is recommended that the quality of this product be improved, especially at the Constanta Cannery, which is one of the major producers of this item.(24)

## IV. SUGAR REFINERIES

The Timisoara Sugar Refinery started production of sugar from the new harvest during the latter part of September. Within a few days, the refinery produced 48 carloads of sugar. The method of Stakhanovite Gritzenko was applied in washing and crushing the beets, thus reducing waste by 10 percent. Productivity in the plant was also increased through the addition of 28 new extractors, the first machines of this type produced in Rumania.(25) The workers of one brigade produced five carloads of sugar on 18 September. The packing department worked with equal efficiency. Two women packers packed 16,000 kilograms of sugar in large bags in 6 hours.(26)

The first carloads of sugar produced from the new sugar beet harvest came from the Arad Sugar Refinery during the first week in September. Workers are making every effort to increase production and labor productivity and to reduce sugar prices. They submitted suggestions for a number of innovations and rationalizations intended to increase working efficiency. One worker proposed the use of a vibrator to separate the dry pulp from impurities. Chief Engineer Talvali (fnu) proposed the manufacture and use of a mechanical loading installation. Other improvements were recommended to reduce sugar waste during manufacture.(27)

## V. FISHERIES

The collective of fishermen and technicians at the Braila Fishery, Galati Regiune, worked hard to fulfill the plan and completed 206 percent of quotas for the month of August 1953. However, this enterprise has serious shortcomings which prevented the fishermen from completing their quotas during the first 8 months of the year. A. Petrov, director of the fishery trust; O. Serafoleanu, chief engineer; Arcadie Petrac, engineer; and Gheorghe Ursulescu, director of the Braila Fishery, were to blame for this situation because they did not organize labor and did nothing to improve living and working conditions for fishermen.

The management of the trust and of the enterprise completely neglected the organization of fishing with small equipment. Because fishing was done only with large nets, many sections were not able to complete quotas. The management claimed that the use of small equipment required more manpower. However, when two qualified fishermen brigades offered their services, they were refused because the fishery said it did not need additional help. The trust and the enterprise also neglected the production of new equipment. In February 1953, the management accepted delivery of 42 large nets which were not according to regulations. Their size was not proper for the water level and they could not be used for 4 months. These nets were designed by Engineer Constantin Mitan, who disregarded the valuable recommendations of the fishermen. Two brigade leaders took the initiative and reduced the size of 13 of these nets, so that they could be used. The management gave various false excuses for not being able to fulfill the plan, such as bad weather, insufficient ice supplies, etc.

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Another bad aspect was the lack of comfortable working and living conditions for fishermen. The construction of huts at the production centers of Armanu, Muguroaia, and Serbanu was planned many months ago, but nothing has been accomplished. By the end of September, the fishermen had not yet received straw mats to make shelters for bad weather. The General Directorate of Fisheries allotted the enterprise straw mats which had to be shipped from Oradea, although reeds grow abundantly in the neighborhood of the fisheries. Local reeds could easily be plaited into mats if the fisheries had a better management. However, the lack of collaboration between the Fishery Trust and the General Directorate of Fisheries of the Ministry of Meat, Fish, and Milk Industries resulted in the neglect of local resources. The General Directorate of Fisheries, the trust at Braila, and the party and regiune agents should become aware of their duties and responsibilities and give attention to improving the management of the Braila Fishery.(3)

The first Volga-type mechanized trawl was put into operation at the Filipoiu Fisheries of the Braila Fisheries Enterprise, Galati Regiune, early in September. The spreading of the trawl, which previously required the work of ten fishermen for 2 hours, is now done by a motor in a launch run by one man. The spreading time has been reduced to 10 minutes and the quantity of fish caught in the trawl has increased from 50-80 kilograms to 500 kilograms in 4 hours. The manpower released through the mechanization of the trawl will be used in other parts of the fishery.(6)

Fishermen of the Tatanir Section of the Delta Fisheries, Tulcea Raion, Galati Regiune, exceeded the August plan for fish deliveries by 2 percent, and fishermen at the Mila 23, Sarinasuf, Mahumudia, Gorgova, and Matita sections of the same fisheries exceeded the August plan by 4-16 percent. The work of the fishermen was facilitated by better equipment and boats. For example, the Delta Fisheries received 2,000 more herring nets, 30,000 more basket nets, 8,000 more large sea fish nets, 20 more large lake nets, and 280 more fishing smacks in 1953 than in 1952. At the same time, the fishermen received free clothes for bad weather, and rubber boots. Additional prefabricated huts have been set up in 1953, such as those at Tigamus. A hut for 76 people will be opened in Dranov in the near future. Fishermen have exceeded their quotas as a result of improved conditions. For example, the brigade of fisherwomen at Mila 23 completed its schedule for August in 23 days.(22)

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